



"Providing the most basic of human needs... food, shelter & hope"

FISH • Friends In Service to Humanity of Northwestern Connecticut, Inc.

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Testimony for the Appropriations Hearing/Department of Housing/February 17, 2017

Senator Osten, Senator Formica, Representative Walker,

Representative Ziobron and Members of the Committee.

I have been a resident at the FISH Homeless Shelter for some time to regroup after health and financial collapse. The services here along with the state assistance have been my only avenue of survival to work through this crisis.

FISH (Friends in Service to Humanity) is located in Torrington, CT having been founded in 1972 and continues to operate only to the exhaustive efforts of the staff and volunteers under the authority of our very competent and dedicated "Hands-on" Executive Director, Deirdre Houlihan DiCara. FISH maintains to the best of its ability its promise of "Providing the most basic of human needs...food, shelter and hope" for men, women and children and even families. This life-saving service is essential to not only Torrington but all of Northwestern Connecticut and should no way be hindered in this effort.

Please support the DOH budget, and the funding that makes it possible for FISH to keep its doors open to the homeless people in our state.

Sincerely,


Mark Quint, Sr, EMT-P

FISH Shelter Resident